

ISSUE: Sangamo-Weston/Pickens County

BACKGROUND: Polychlorinated Biphenyls (PCBs) were discovered in Lake Hartwell and its tributaries in 1975. The source of the PCB's was determined to be the Sangamo plant and other sites in the watershed. PCB's were used as a dielectric in capacitors produced at the Sangamo-Weston Plant near Pickens, SC. Before 1976, Sangamo landfilled capacitors that did not meet their required specification in off-site locations or areas near the facility. Sangamo discontinued discharging PCB's into Town Creek in November, 1977. Health advisories from EPA and SCDHEC state that fish from Lake Hartwell, 12-Mile Creek and the Seneca River Arm of Lake Hartwell should not be eaten. The Health advisory was put into effect in 1976 and remains in effect to date.

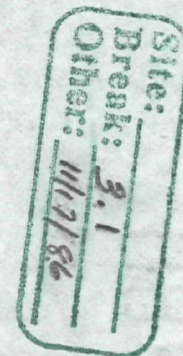
EPA sampled the entire area where PCB dumping was believed to have occurred. Eight separate disposal areas were indentified as potential sources of the PCBs found in the area's surface water (Town Creek, Twelve Mile Creek, Golden Creek, Middle Fork Twelve Mile, and North Fork Twelve Mile Creek). A ranking package was prepared to include Sangamo on the NPL. Following QA/QC, the "Site" or "Facility" was considered to be the Twelve-Mile Creek Basin and Lake Hartwell, with the eight identified disposal areas considered as possible sources of contamination. The "Site" is scheduled to be proposed for listing in the next update, the date of which is unknown at this time.

One of eight disposal areas, the Breazeale Property was referred to the Superfund Emergency Program due to the high concentrations of PCB's (27,000 ppm) that were found in the surface soil and the fact that people were living on the property. On August 7, 1986, ESD Athens confirmed that 2,3,7,8, furans and 2,3,7,8 dioxin were present at the site. A Consent Agreement was signed on August 11, 1986 by EPA and Sangamo outlining a sampling plan for the Breazeale property and requiring the relocation of the residents living on-site. The site is now secured and will undergo remedial actions concurrently with the other sites.

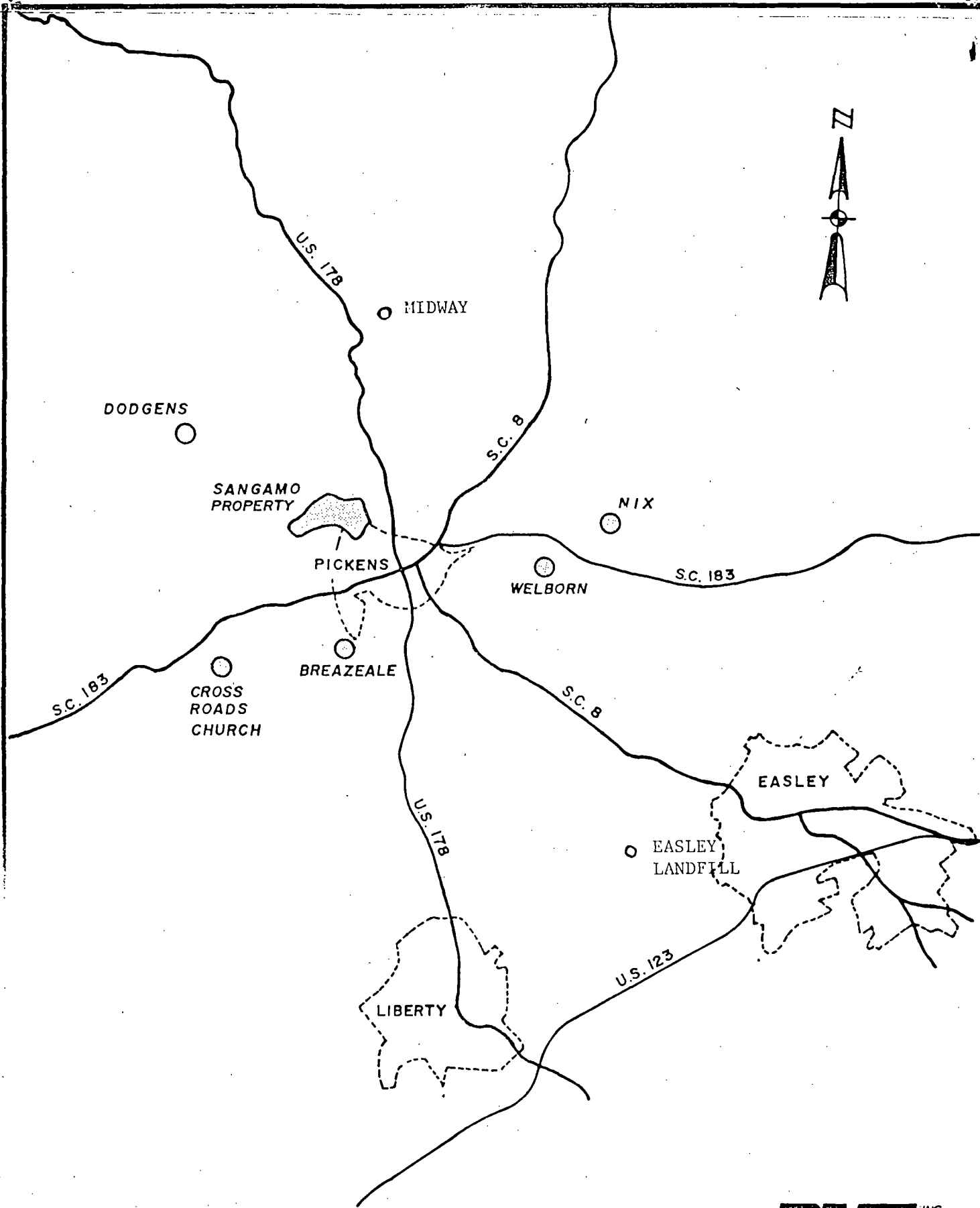
Sangamo has also expressed an interest in negotiating a Consent Agreement for performing the RI/FS on the entire site before it becomes final on the NPL. Negotiations on the RI/FS Consent Agreement began November 7, 1986. Sangamo has submitted an RI/FS Work Plan to EPA for review.

Four other possible PCB disposal sites have been reported to the Agency. The results of ESD's sampling will determine if these areas should be added to the site.

KEY CONTACT PERSON: Giezelle Bennett
Emergency and Remedial Response Branch
Waste Management Division
257-2234



10728452



SITE LOCATIONS